

**STILLWATER COUNTY
COMMISSIONER MINUTES**

Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b).

**REGULAR MEETING
January 4, 2022**

PRESENT Commissioners Mark Crago, Chair, Tyrel Hamilton and Steve Riveland, members, Madisyn Hudecek, Admin Assistant.

Others Present: Shannon Fisher, Environmental Health; Maureen Wiltshire, DES; Kevin Ray, Road & Bridge; Jerry Friend, Treasurer; Chip Kem, SCSO; Randy Smith, SCSO.

PLEDGE Commissioner Crago opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES November 2 and November 9, 2021. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

CLAIMS 108525 through 108705 in the amount of \$646,963.99. Commissioner Riveland **MOVED** to approve claim number 108525 through 108705 in the amount of \$646,963.99. Commissioner Hamilton **SECONDED**. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNITION: Troy Darkenwald for 5 years, Chad Cavendar for 10 years, Mark Crago for 5 years and Jerry Friend for 15 years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Commissioner Crago announced as a reminder the office is now located at the West Annex. The Commissioners new admin is Madisyn Hudecek and she will be in the Commission office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and in the Clerk & Records office on the other days. Shannon Fisher is now environmental health. The following offices are now located in the West Annex: Commissioners, Economic Development, Planning, Environmental Health, GIS, HR and the Victims Advocate.

FILE ITEMS **Treasurer**
A) Report for the month of October in the amount of \$64,912,324.38

Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to file the file items. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Discussion – Jerry Friend stated that the report is for the month of November, not October. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to amend the file items to read the month of November not October. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. No. discussion on the amendment. Commissioner Crago called for a vote on the original amended motion. Motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR BUSINESS **Road & Bridge**
A) Consent to accept land from the Montana Land Reliance. Commissioner Riveland **MOVED** to approve consent to accept land from Montana Land Reliance. Commissioner Hamilton **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Crago explained that this land was acquired as a portion of the Johnson Bridge Project. Kevin Ray added that it was land that was used for the irrigation ditch and the curvature of the road. Commissioner Crago also added that this is land the state acquired for the project and how now turned it over to the county for use of the right of way. Motion passed unanimously.

B) Lease buyout request for one 2018 CASE 921G loader. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the lease buyout request for one 2018 CASE 921G loader. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Hamilton stated that this is for \$95,359.68. Commissioner Crago explained that this is for a buyout option for the end of the lease period. If the county were to turn the lease back and lease a new loader, payments would be made for this for at least 18 months to two years because they are that far out. Motion passed unanimously.

Commission

A) Order to Treasurer for Solid Waste assessment refund. Commissioner Riveland **MOVED** to approve the order to Treasurer for Solid Waste assessment refund. Commissioner Hamilton **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Crago explained that this formalizes the previous action from two weeks ago. The amount of this refund is \$523.40. Motion passed unanimously.

B) Resolution 2022-01 establishing reorganization of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Riveland **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2022-01 establishing reorganization of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Hamilton **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Crago explained that this would place Commissioner Hamilton as the chair with Commissioner Crago and Commissioner Riveland as co-chairs so they can sign if Commissioner Hamilton is unavailable. This also has a list of the external committee/board assignments for the Commissioners. Commissioner Crago read the attached board assignments. Motion passed unanimously.

C) Resolution 2022-02 setting the Board of County Commissioners meeting days, office hours and establish a location for posting public notices. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2022-02 setting the Board of County Commissioners meeting days, office hours and establish a location for posting public notices. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Hamilton noted for the record that this resolution is basically the same as in the past. Meetings will continue to be in the county courthouse at 9:00 a.m. except for the traveling agenda meetings which will be the first Tuesday of the month. The first meeting will be in Park City in March, Rapelje in April, Reed Point in May, Fishtail in June, Columbus in July, Nye in August, Absarokee in September and Molt in October. Commissioner Crago added that there will be one more official posting place in the West Annex on the bulletin board on the first floor. Motion passed unanimously.

D) Resolution 2022-03 establishing mileage, lodging and per diem rates for business travel. Commissioner Riveland **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2022-03 establishing mileage, lodging and per diem rates for business travel. Commissioner Hamilton **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Hamilton stated that the rates this year for mileage will be \$.58.5/mile for the first thousand miles and calendar month and \$.55.5/mile thereafter. State rate for lodging is \$96.00 plus tax for in state standard lodging. Meal rates are \$7.50 for a morning meal, \$8.50 for midday meal and \$14.50 for an evening meal. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COUNTY BUSINESS – Jerry Friend commented that for people having problems paying property taxes that there are programs available that are run through the Department of Revenue. There is the Property Tax Assistance Program and forms are available in the Treasurer's office. The 2022 forms are available and need to be turned into the Department of Revenue to receive credit for this coming years taxes by the April 1, 2022. There is also a veteran's discount available through the state and there is also an elderly homeowner's credit. These are state run programs and people are encouraged to apply for these programs. Brandon Garoutte asked if Jerry foresees a cash shortage coming with the delinquent taxes. Jerry Friend replied no that the real property delinquent taxes amounts to approximately 300 people. These programs are for people who are financially strapped due to changing circumstances. Stillwater County has historically had 30 to 50 properties that were not paid. Brandon asked if it was \$300,000.00. Jerry replied that the figure is 300 taxpayers.

Commissioner Riveland thanks Kevin Ray and the road crew for helping move the desks to the West Annex last week. Commissioner Riveland also thanked Bill Pronovost for his years of service.

With no further comments heard the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

APPROVED BY: /s/ Mark Crago, Commissioner Chairman

ATTEST: Heidi L. Stadel, Clerk and Recorder

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